

Vivian Taylor

Vivian Taylor, daughter of Fountain Taylor and Dolly Thompson was born July 14, 1929 in Onslow County, NC. She married Aaron Calhoun Turnage "A.C." On February 10, 1951. She and A.C. had two daughters and a son; Sheila, Michael and Allison and three granddaughters; Laura, Karen, and Haven.

Vivian has a similar experience growing up as A. C. did. She grew up on a tobacco farm in Onslow County and did all the things young forks of farm did including helping to harvest the tobacco and the many chores needed. It was there she got a start as an excellent homemaker and provider for her family.

Vivian attended East Carolina Teacher's College, now East Carolina University. It was while attending East Carolina she met A.C. Hearing her tell about their courtship and eventual marriage reminds you of Shakespeare's "A Mid-summer Night's Dream." While attending college at N. C. State, A.C. roomed with Don Strickhouser. A.C. and Don came to Farmville almost every weekend and would go to East Carolina in Greenville to date. First A.C. dated Vivian's roommate but things did not click. Then later Don dated her roommate. One night Don was dating the roommate and A.C. did not have a date. The roommate persuaded Vivian to date A.C. and that was the beginning of their life together. They had fun and he was even more dedicated to getting back to Greenville. During the summers she went back home to Onslow County to help harvest tobacco on the family farm and he found odd jobs to do.

During his Junior year A.C. received orders to report back to the Navy for duty in the Korean War. He was still in the Naval Reserve. Not knowing what would happen, they decided to get married and two weeks later they were, on Feb. 10, 1951. By this time Vivian had graduated and was teaching at Mt. Pleasant Elementary, a small school outside of Bailey, NC. They lived in a trailer and A.C. commuted to State for classes. The next summer he worked for the State Highway Dept. and she again worked in the tobacco harvest but this time on the Turnage farm!

During his senior year, they lived in a collapsible trailer on campus. She worked at Boylan Pearce's Department store. Being married, A.C.'s GI. Bill entitlement went from \$75 a month to \$105. It was a good thing she was working. After his graduation, they moved to Rocky Mount where his first job was. Vivian taught at West Edgecombe High School, near the city. The next move was to Jacksonville where their first daughter, Sheila, was born. This time Vivian became a stay at home mom. Their son, Michael was born about the time they moved again to Selma, NC for another job advancement.

When A.C. contracted tuberculosis, they stored their belongings and she moved to Farmville to stay with his folks who helped look after the children while she taught in vHookerton, NC. Fortunately, he was able to return to work in about a year this time with the State Department of Natural resources. Along with a second daughter, Allison,